

Appendix C

Public Participation/Planning Process Documentation

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION/PLANNING PROCESS DOCUMENTATION

Public participation was a key component of the strategic planning process for the Teton County Wildfire Mitigation Plan (The Plan).

The Plan integrates a cross-section of citizen and agency input that was gathered throughout the planning process.

Coordination and structure was through Teton County Fire Department utilizing a modified Incident Command System. The Teton County Wildfire Group was comprised of knowledgeable individuals representing the major land stakeholders in the County, including:

- Teton County Commissioners
- Teton County Fire Commissioners
- Teton County Disaster Services
- Teton County GIS
- Teton County Fire Department
- Teton County Sheriff's Office
- Teton County Assessors
- City of Driggs Mayor
- County Residents and Land owners
- Idaho Department of Lands
- Bureau of Land Management
- U.S. Forest Service

With this broad base of participation information exchange, hazard identification and mitigation recommendation developments were optimized. Public participation was accomplished by distribution of questionnaires that addressed wildfire concerns and suggestions (Appendix B).

MEETINGS AND PUBLIC OUTREACH

Meeting 1- Teton County Wildfire Group, Date: 07/01/03

Location: Driggs, Idaho

Objective: The objectives of the first meeting of the Teton County Wildland Fire Mitigation Plan were:

- Introduce participants and discuss objectives
- Identify positions in Teton County Wildfire Group Organization
- Identify liaisons, administrators, team leads, and coordinators
- Begin to develop Wildland Fire Mitigation Plan Priorities
- Identify resources needed for the Teton County Wildland Fire Plan

Participants:

Gary Henrie, Chief, Teton County Fire Protection District
Ivan Hibbert, Fire Marshall, Teton County Fire Protection District
Earle G. Giles, Battalion Chief, Victor, Teton County Fire Protection District
Ron Ramirez, Teton County Commissioner/Insurance Representative
Bob Dalton, Civil Defense Director, Teton County
Kraig Carroll, Fire Management Officer, Caribou-Targhee N.F.
Scott Wood, Teton County Fire
Larry Boothe, Teton Co. Fire Commissioner/County P&Z Administrator
Ryan Kaufman, Teton County Sheriff
Jay Calderwood, Teton County Commissioner
Louis B. Christensen, Mayor, City of Driggs
Fred Judd, Fire Mgt. Officer, Idaho Falls BLM
Mitch Smaellie, Battalion Chief, Tetonia, Teton County Fire Protection District
Jim Melton, Dynamac Corp., Project Manager
Jeff Bass, Dynamac Corp., Fire Specialist
Keith Birch, Dynamac Corp., Fire Specialist, Technical Support

Documentation/Synopsis:

The meeting began at 10 AM, Gary Henrie, Fire Chief, provided a welcome and introductions to all attending. He then described the purpose of the meeting and objectives of the planning effort. Jim Melton introduced the Dynamac Staff and explained the efforts and accomplishments to date.

Jeff Bass covered the handout materials and presented an overhead presentation outlining the planning process.

Jeff Bass discussed, with group input, the information needs from the various representatives present and received a commitment to the planning effort. He then presented the proposed plan outline and organizational needs along with various liaison links necessary.

The Working Group then agreed to the following priorities for the plan:

- Public Health/Safety
- Protection of Property
- Protection of Resources
- Values at Risk

An article was published in the Teton Valley News identifying the project and its purpose along with an invitation to any interested citizens to attend meetings or offer input.

Meeting 2 – Teton County Wildfire Group, Date 08/12/2003

Location: Driggs, Idaho

Objective: The objectives of the meeting of the Teton County Wildland Fire Mitigation Plan were:

- Discuss progress relative to hazard mapping
- Review documentation available to the team
- Discuss GIS mapping availability
- Discuss future work group and public meeting schedules

Participants:

Gary Henrie, Chief, Teton County Fire Protection District
Earl Giles, Battalion Chief, Victor, Teton County Fire Protection District
Bob Dalton, Teton County Emergency Services Director
Ryan Kaufman, Teton County Sheriff
Louis Christensen, Mayor, City of Driggs
Scott Wood, Teton County Fire Department
Jay Hansen, Teton County GIS Specialist
Ivan Hibbert, Fire Marshall, Teton County Fire Protection District
Jay Calderwood, Teton County Commissioner
Jeff Bass, Dynamac Corp., Fire Specialist
Keith Birch, Dynamac Corp. Fire Specialist

Documentation/Synopsis:

The meeting convened at 0900.

Supporting documentation was reviewed and passed on to Jeff Bass. This included copies of the County Comprehensive P&Z Plan, Subdivision ordinances and a County-wide mailing list.

The majority of the meeting was spent reviewing the hazard mapping progress . Four categories of risk were agreed upon as follows:

1. Extreme
2. High
3. Moderate
4. Low

GIS mapping capabilities by the County were agreed upon. The County will provide all GIS services relative to the Plan.

Working Group and Public Meeting Schedules were formulated.

Meeting 3 – Teton County Wildfire Group, Date: 09/04/2003

Location: Driggs, Idaho

Objective: The objective of this meeting was to review the possible mitigation measure of a County-wide all risk 911 dispatching system.

Participants:

Ryan Kaufman, Teton County Sheriff
Duane Whitlock, Dispatcher, Teton County Fire Department
Ken Schwab, Teton County EMT/Ambulance
Jay Hansen, Teton County GIS Specialist
Denise Kaelberer, Teton County Road & Bridge Department
Clay Smith, Teton County Road & Bridge Department
Mike Clements, Idaho State Homeland Security, Bureau of Disaster Services
Bob Dalton, Teton County Civil Defense Director
Steve Moore, Teton County Assessors Office
Gary Henrie, Fire Chief, Teton County Fire Protection District
Ivan Hibbert, Fire Marshall, Teton County Fire Protection District
Louis Christensen, Mayor, City of Driggs
Bob King, Sunrise Engineering, Afton, Wyoming
Scott Meehan, GEO 911, Scottsdale, Arizona
Keith Birch, Dynamac Corp. Fire Specialist

Documentation/Synopsis:

Scott Meehan of GEO 911, Scottsdale, Az. Presented an overview of a County-wide all risk dispatching/documentation system as a possible mitigation program. The components of which would integrate all emergency services in the County into one comprehensive dispatching/documentation/management system. The presentation was well received by the various County Departments and will apply for grant money based on the mitigation opportunities presented in the Fire Hazard/Mitigation Plan.

Meeting 4 – Teton County Wildfire Group, Date: 09/29/2003

Location: Driggs, Idaho

Objective: The primary objective of the meeting was to introduce the Working Group to the Hazard Class mapping progress to date. The secondary objective was to measure progress and discuss future actions.

Participants:

Scott Wood, Teton County Fire Department
Mitch Smaellie, Battalion Chief, Tetonia, Teton County Fire Protection District
Steve Smart, Director, High Country RC&D
Ryan Kaufman, Sheriff, Teton County
Jay Hanson, Commissioner, Teton County Fire Protection District and County GIS Specialist
Bob Dalton, Director, Teton County Civil Defense
Ron Ramirez, Teton County Commissioner
Ivan Hibbert, Fire Marshall, Teton County Fire Protection District
Louis Christensen, Mayor, City of Driggs
Gary Henrie, Fire Chief, Teton County Fire Protection District
Fred Judd, Fire Management, Upper Snake River District, BLM
Dean Philbrick, Fire Chief, Swan Valley Fire Department
Keith Birch, Dynamac Corp. Fire Management Specialist

Documentation/Synopsis:

A draft map of the four Hazard Classes was handed out for review by the Working Group. Narrative descriptions and justifications for each of the Hazard Class delineations were discussed and agreed upon. GIS applications relative to the rough draft mapping were discussed and agreed that Jay Hanson, the County GIS Specialist would oversee the mapping component.

A review of the progress relative to documentation and current status was discussed and agreed upon by the Working Group.

Meeting 5 – Teton County Wildfire Group, Date: 10/21/2003

Location: Driggs, Idaho

Objective: The objective of the meeting was to update both the general public and the Working Group relative to the progress to date with the planning effort coupled with planned future actions.

Participants:

Bob Dalton, Teton County Civil Defense Director
Toni Philbrick, EMS President, Swan Valley
Dean Philbrick, Fire Chief, Swan Valley
Ruby Parsons, President, Teton County Fire Commission
Jay Hansen, Teton County Fire Commission & County GIS Specialist
Gary Henrie, Fire Chief, Teton County Fire Protection District
Ivan Hibbert, Fire Marshall, Teton County Fire Protection District
Dave Hartshorn, Fire Commissioner, Teton County
Louis Christensen, Mayor, City of Driggs
Cari Golden, Deputy City Clerk, City of Victor
Jim Melton, Dynamac Corp., Project Leader
Keith Birch, Dynamac Corp. Fire Specialist

Documentation/Synopsis:

The Fire Hazard Mapping and ratings were reviewed and agreed upon by the Working Group. Map data was be forwarded to Jeff Bass for finalization.

Text editing was reviewed from the handouts provided during the September 29, 2003 Working Group meeting. Draft edits were sent to Jeff Bass for write-up.

The last item of business was the discussion/formulation of a mailer questionnaire to be sent out to selected parties with a due-back date by the next Working Group Meeting scheduled for December 2, 2003.

Meeting 6 – Teton County Wildfire Group, Date: 12/02/2003

Location: Driggs, Idaho

Objective: The objectives of the meeting were to review the planning process to date and to formulate mitigation measures'

Participants:

Ruby Parsons, President, Teton County Fire Commission
Jay Hanson, Teton County Fire Commissioner & GIS Specialist
Bob Dalton, Teton County civil Defense Director
Kraig Carroll, Operations FMO, Caribou-Targhee National Forest
Fred Judd, BLM, Upper Snake River District
Ivan Hibbert, Fire Marshall, Teton County Fire Protection District
Earl Giles, Battalion Chief, Victor, Teton County Fire Protection District
Jay Calderwood, Teton County Commissioner
Louis Christensen, Mayor, City of Driggs
Gary Henrie, Fire Chief, Teton County Fire Protection District
Keith Birch, Dynamac Corp. Fire Specialist

Documentation/Synopsis:

A final review of the mapping was made and agreed upon as being accurate. Written narratives of the hazard classes were presented by Ivan Hibbert for review with some minor changes made and then to be forwarded for text editing. The main focus of the meeting was to identify and agree upon hazard mitigation measures to include in the plan. A handout of possible mitigation measures was distributed and discussed. Keith Birch took the comments and was to summarize them and send them to Jeff Bass for draft write-up. Scheduling was next discussed and it was recognized that the December 31, 2003 due date for Plan completion would not be met due to several extenuating factors. Chief Henrie was to send a letter to Dynamac authorizing the extension of the project through the end of February, 2004.